Name: Fátima Ayala **T.P.: 5**

Date: 06-28-24
C.P.:

Oral Expression II - Speaking on Special Occasions

Answer the following questions:

1. What is a special occasion speech? What are its five broad functions? Describe them.

A special occasion speech is one that is prepared for a specific occasion and for the purpose dictated by that occasion. They can be either informative or persuasive.

Its five broad functions are:

I. Certain special occasions speeches, such as those for banquets, award dinners, and roasts, are given to entertain those in attendance.
II. Often the function of a special occasion speech is to celebrate a person, a place, or an event, such as at weddings or anniversaries.
III. A special occasion speech can commemorate a notable person, place or event at memorial ceremonies.
IV. Some special occasion speeches, such as inaugural addresses and keynote speeches at conventions, are given to inspire listeners.
V. Another function of special occasion speeches is social agenda-setting, the promoting of goals and values held by the group sponsoring the event.

2. What are the different types of special occasion speeches? Describe them.

I. *Speech of introduction:* it is a short speech given to introduce a speaker and to motivate the audience to listen to the speaker.
II. *Speech of acceptance:* it is given to express gratitude for an awarded honor.
III. *Speech of presentation:* its purpose is to communicate the meaning of the award and to explain why the recipient is receiving it.
IV. *Roast:* it is a humorous tribute to a person in which a series of speakers poke fun at her or him.
V. *Toast:* it is a brief tribute to a person or an event.
VI. *Eulogy:* it is a tribute to a deceased person.
VII. *After-dinner speech:* it is a lighthearted and entertaining speech delivered before, during, or after a meal.
VIII. *Speech of inspiration:* seeks to uplift the audience and to help listeners see things in positive light.

3. What are some of the most noteworthy aspects of special occasion speeches that you have heard? Do poorly constructed and delivered special occasion speeches do more harm than good? Refer to the two different speeches you have seen in class, identify various aspects of the speech.

Special occasion speeches are designed to mark or celebrate significant events and are known for their ability to connect with the audience emotionally. The most noteworthy aspects of these speeches include personalization through relatable anecdotes, strong emotional appeal, relevance to the specific event, audience engagement through humor or interaction, and a clear structure with a defined beginning, middle, and end. These elements help make the speech memorable and impactful.

Poorly constructed and delivered speeches, on the other hand, can detract from the occasion, causing disengagement or even offense. For instance, a successful graduation speech might include personal stories, evoke excitement for the future, and maintain audience engagement with humor. Conversely, a poorly delivered retirement speech might lack personalization, emotional appeal, relevance, and a clear structure, resulting in a lackluster response from the audience. In summary, the effectiveness of special occasion speeches lies in their ability to resonate emotionally with the audience and enhance the significance of the event.

4. If you were asked to develop and deliver one of the special occasion speeches discussed in class, which one would you choose? Which one would you find less appealing than the others? Why?

If I were asked to develop and deliver one of the special occasion speeches discussed in class, I would choose to deliver a commencement speech at a graduation ceremony. This type of speech appeals to me because it offers the opportunity to inspire and motivate a large audience at a significant milestone in their lives. The chance to share wisdom, personal experiences, and encourage graduates as they embark on their next chapter is both meaningful and fulfilling. It allows for a blend of storytelling, humor, and motivational elements, which can create a powerful and memorable experience for the audience.

On the other hand, I would find a roast less appealing than the other types of special occasion speeches. While roasts can be entertaining and humorous, they often require a specific kind of comedic timing and a deep familiarity with the person being roasted to ensure that the jokes are taken in good spirit and do not offend. The balance between humor and respect can be delicate, and there is a risk of misjudging the tone or content, which could lead to discomfort or hurt feelings. Therefore, I would be less inclined to choose a roast due to the potential pitfalls and the need for a very particular style of delivery.

5. Search on the internet one type of special occasion speech different from the ones we have seen in class. Say if it follows the key elements for the specific occasion. Attach the link.

A toast is typically a short speech given to honor someone or something during a celebration, such as a birthday, anniversary, or achievement. It often follows a few key elements:

1. **Introduction**: Acknowledging the occasion and the reason for the toast.
2. **Expression of Sentiment**: Expressing positive feelings or admiration towards the person or the occasion being toasted.
3. **Personal Touch**: Adding a personal anecdote or story related to the person or the occasion.
4. **Proposition**: The actual toast, where the speaker raises their glass and proposes a wish, blessing, or congratulatory message.

How to Give a Toast: A Guide for Memorable Speeches (thespeakerlab.com)